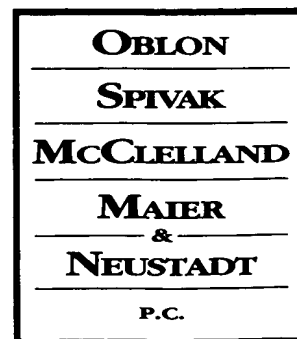




DOCKET NO: 0557-4758-3

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231



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RE: U.S. Application  
Serial No: 09/392,254  
Filed: SEPTEMBER 9, 1999  
Group: 1773  
Inventor: Yasuo YAMANAKA, et al.  
For: PLASTIC MOLDING AND A METHOD...

SIR:

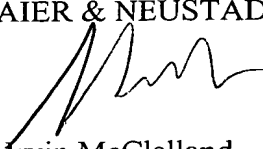
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**PROVISIONAL ELECTION**

Our check in the amount of \$--0-- is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

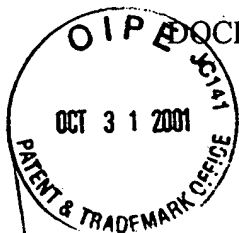
  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENTS & TRADEMARKS OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Yasuo YAMANAKA, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1773

SERIAL NO: 09/392,254

FILED: SEPTEMBER 9, 1999

: EXAMINER: PAULRAJ, C.

FOR: PLASTIC MOLDING AND A METHOD  
AND A MOLD ASSEMBLY FOR  
PRODUCING THE SAME

**PROVISIONAL ELECTION**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement dated October 2, 2001, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group II, Claims 17-24, drawn to a plastic molding for examination on the merits.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, MPEP §803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

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The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a serious burden on the Examiner.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn, and that each of Claims 1-29 be examined on the merits in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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